

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

16605

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. Each of Budapest's 22 districts has a construction enterprise which, although not a municipal enterprise, is responsible to the municipal district councils for general matters. The Budapest District VII construction enterprise is located in a 3-story building at 7 Lövölde Tér. It carries out projects of the District VII council, the central municipal council, and the Ministry of Constructions.
2. The enterprise did the following construction work in the period from 1951 to October 1953:
 - a. A modern electric system, with first-class copper wire and many neon lights, was installed at the Fine Mechanical Instruments (Finom Mechanika) at 14 Nagydiofa Street. The factory employs 300 workers and makes typewriters, accounting machines, measuring instruments, and medical apparatus.
 - b. The sanatorium at the corner of Bajza Street and Gorki Boulevard was enlarged and made into an AVH hospital. Each of the two 2-story buildings was increased to 4 stories and the total number of beds was increased from 400 to 500.
 - c. In 1951-52 a brick building, measuring 30 x 90 m. was built on Teve Street. The new building was an addition to the Aluminiumpyar factory, which is located on Váci ut. This factory, which probably manufactures important military aluminum parts, employs 700 to 800 workers.
 - d. The Gyopák hotel on Sváb Hill was converted to a political school.
 - e. The North Korean Legation's building, located on Benczur Street, was enlarged from approximately seven rooms to 16 rooms, and a garage was built near the building. There are no particular security arrangements; the lone Hungarian policeman stationed there is customary for all diplomatic representations in Budapest.
 - f. A brothel located at 7 Rózsa Street was converted to a police station.

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- g. The central district police office of District VII was repaired and enlarged at a cost of 350,000 forint.
- h. All air-raid shelters in the district were repaired and refitted. The Government's plan called for all shelters to be ready for instant use by the end of 1952, but work is still going on. The Building Parts Factory (Építéstelemgyár) on Budafoki Street in District XI supplies concrete doors in weights of 120 kg. and 60-70 kg., the former for emergency exits. All air-raid shelters in Budapest are underground, and house wardens are responsible for them. Expenses for shelters are paid by the organizations which are responsible for the houses in general. Men over 50-55 years old receive special obligatory instruction as air-raid wardens.
- i. Air-raid sirens in all districts were repaired and refitted. They are made of rust-resistant material which is not available for ordinary building purposes. Each district controls its sirens from a central operating point.
- j. The Vigadó concert hall was converted to offices for the Ministry of Light Industry. A new electric system and loudspeakers were installed in each room. Cost of the conversion was 2,000,000 forint.
- k. New electric systems were installed in all movie theaters in Budapest.
- l. Part of the ground floor of a 3-story apartment house, located at the corner of Bethlen and Dembinsky Streets (District VII), was converted to a seven or eight-room dispensary.
- m. A former inn at the corner of Szondy and Szinyei Merse Streets (District VII) was converted to a six to eight-room dispensary.
- n. The 2-story dispensary at 22-24 Csengery Street was enlarged.
- o. The clinic for tubercular patients, located at the corner of Pauler and Vermező Streets, was repaired.
- p. The former Korányi hospital, located in a 3-story building at the corner of Alsóerdősor Street and Roszak (sic) Square, was repaired and enlarged from 250 beds to 400 beds.
- q. An additional story was added to a 1-story building at 12 Josika Street. A branch of the Party's Central Body of District VII occupies this building. An old 3-story building on Dohány Street was also converted to Party requirements.
- 3. Each enterprise must submit applications for building materials six months prior to the beginning of the planned project. The applications are sent in six copies to the registration department of the Ministry of Constructions, and the quantity of materials requested must not exceed that required for three months' work. Cement, lime, bricks, roofing tile, and glass are normally allotted upon application.
- 4. Applications for timber, round iron (one-half and three-quarter inch thick), "I" iron, sheet iron, bolts with heads and nuts, copper wire, pipes, oil paints, gypsum, and all other materials in short supply may be reduced or even refused by the ministry. Even when applications have been approved, the materials are occasionally delivered only after a long lapse of time. The same is true for lathes and tools.
- 5. When the ministry approves an application for building materials, it sends a copy directly to the producing enterprise or wholesale concern, both of which are responsible to the Ministry of Constructions.

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6. Cement and lime are supplied by the Tatai Lime and Cement Works (Mész és Cement Gyár) at Tata (P48/Y94) and the lime and cement plant at Labatlan (Q48/Z06). Bricks and roofing tile are supplied by the following factories:
- a. The former Ujlaki Brick Factory (Tégtagyár) on Bécsi Street, Budapest III. This large, modern factory has 28 kilns and employs at least 1,000 workers in three shifts. Its principal product is first-quality brick used for foundations and pillars, each brick weighing 3.5 to 3.75 kg.
 - b. A factory on Maglódi Street, District XXII, whose principal product is brick for inner walls.
 - c. A sandlime factory located approximately three kilometers south of the Mátyás Rakosi Works, on Csepel Island.
 - d. The Lőrinczi Brick Factory (Tégtagyár) in District XVIII.
 - e. A brick factory at Dombóvár (Y5/B16).
7. Iron and iron products are supplied by the government enterprise E.M. Iron and Metal Supplying Enterprise (Vas és Fémanyag Ellátó Vállalat), located at 38-50 Külső Jászberényi Street, District X. This organization's depot is located near the Kőbánya railroad station. Timber is supplied directly from the Ministry of Construction's depots at the port of Csepel.
8. Electrical equipment is supplied by the Villrad organization, located at 75 Kisjózsef Street, among whose depots are the following:
- a. Aluminum and copper wire at 39 Katona József Street,
 - b. Bergman and other special pipes at 15 Katona József Street, and
 - c. Ebonite and porcelain insulating materials at 16 Vörösmarty Street.
9. The following personalities of Budapest District VII Construction Enterprise are known:
- a. László Györi, delegate of the Party district branch [redacted] 25X1
 - b. Mrs. Béla (Livia) Hortobágyi, chief accountant.
 - c. Gyula Liptai, chief engineer until April-May 1953 [redacted] 25X1
 - d. András Molnár, Director [redacted]
 - e. Béla Szőke, chief engineer since April-May 1953 [redacted]
 - f. Henrik Vértess, trade union delegate [redacted]

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